

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0041] with the following amended version of paragraph [0041]:

[0041] Optical device 30 also includes a port 42 that accepts at least a portion of an optical component 44. This port 42 has a stepped configuration with optical component 44 at least partially received in a first region 46, while the optoelectronic package, such as a packaged photodetector and lens (not shown) can be received by a second region 48. In this configuration, a first facet 50 of optical component 44 abuts terminal end 34 of optical fiber 36 when fiber 36 engages with housing 32, while an air gap is formed between a second facet 52 of optical component 44 and the lens and photodetector assembly (not shown). In other configurations, other optical components having a refractive index lesser than the refractive index of optical component 44 can be disposed between second facet 52 ~~and of~~ optical component 44 and the optoelectronic package.

No new matter is believed to be introduced as a result of the foregoing amendment to the specification.